

Amendments to the Specification:

Amend the paragraph beginning at page 22, line 1, as follows.

Figure 1B shows the predicted MEP-1 protein (SEQ ID NO:1). Zinc finger motifs are shaded boxed, and the positions of *mep-1* mutations are indicated by arrowheads.

Amend the paragraph beginning at page 22, line 3, as follows.

~~Figure 2 shows~~ Figures 2A and 2B show the genomic sequence of *mep-1* (SEQ ID NO:2). The start and stop codons are ~~indicated by highlighting~~ boxed.

Amend the paragraph beginning at page 22, line 5, as follows.

~~Figure 3 shows~~ Figures 3A and 3B show the nucleic acid sequence of the *mep-1* open reading frame (SEQ ID NO:3).

Amend the paragraph beginning at page 25, line 5, as follows.

~~Figure 19 shows~~ Figures 19A to 19S show the genomic nucleic acid sequence of *ssl-1* (SEQ ID NO:21) and the deduced amino acid sequence (SEQ ID NO:23).

Amend the paragraph beginning at page 26, line 5, as follows.

~~Figure 27 shows~~ Figures 27A to 27F show the genomic sequence of *lin-65* (SEQ ID NO:28). The exon boundaries are also defined.

Amend the paragraph beginning at page 26, line 9, as follows.

Figure 29 shows the mRNA sequence that encodes the LIN(n3628) human ortholog, KIAA1732 (SEQ ID NO:35).

Amend the paragraph beginning at page 26, line 11, as follows.

Figure 30 shows the amino acid sequence of KIAA1732 (~~SEQ ID NO:35~~ SEQ ID NO:36)

At page 26, delete line 12.

Amend the paragraph beginning at page 26, line 13, as follows.

~~Figure 32~~ Figure 31 defines the domains of LIN(n3628), including the SET catalytic domain.

Amend the paragraph beginning at page 26, line 14, as follows.

~~Figure 33~~ Figure 32 defines the domains of KIAA1732, including the SET catalytic domain.